

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for optimizing tag based protocol stream parsing, said method comprising:

providing a reference tag table comprising a plurality of rows, each row comprising a first column containing a tag, a second column containing a set of one or more attributes corresponding to the tag in the first column, and a third column containing a name of a function associated with the tag in the first column, the function using a value of each of the attributes in the second column as a parameter when executed,

each time a tag is read from the tag based protocol stream:

comparing said read tag and the tags of said reference tag table and,

if said read tag belongs to said reference tag table, determining if a function name is associated with said tag belonging to said reference tag table and,

if a function name is associated to said tag belonging to said reference tag table, executing the function corresponding to said function name associated with said tag belonging to said reference tag table, wherein the function corresponding to a given tag is executed only if each attribute in the set of attributes associated with the read tag in the reference tag table is in the tag based protocol stream,

wherein a same tag can be associated to a plurality of sets of different attributes in the reference tag table, and

wherein a function corresponding to said function name associated to said tag belonging to said reference tag table comprises a skip function that allows a parser to automatically skip a determined amount of data following said read tag, the amount of

data being either predetermined or being determined by an attribute value.

Claims 2-5 (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the a function corresponding to said function name associated to said tag belonging to said reference tag table comprises a save function that associates, in memory, a determined amount of data following said read tag to a predetermined label or to a label being given as an attribute value.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said tag based protocol stream is an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) stream.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein said reference tag table is associated to a Document Type Definition defined in said XML stream.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Cancelled).